



MSRB

Retiree eNews Bulletin

September 2019 eNews

Breaking News: Congressman Richard Neal (D-Springfield) Files WEP Reform Bill

On Friday, September 27, 2019, Congressman Neal filed his proposal to reform the Social Security Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP). The Public Servants Protection and Fairness Act, H.R. 4540, if passed into law, will provide relief for retirees affected by the Social Security WEP law. MSRB will provide more information in its October Retiree eNews Bulletin. In the meantime, [here is a link to the legislation's summary.](#)

Safeguarding Personal Information

We would like to remind our retirees that the State Retirement Board ("MSRB") attempts to protect your personally identifiable information in several ways. This type of information includes your name, address, Social Security number, birth date, and any banking information.

For example, the MSRB assigns a dedicated ID number to each member of the retirement system which is used in all correspondence we issue. Additionally, the MSRB uses security measures to ensure that information provided by you is not lost, misused, or altered in any way.

Did You Know?

The 2020 Pension Check Calendars are now available for download and viewing!

Click [here](#) to view and/or download a copy to print and file with your important documents.

Unclaimed Property

This September, Treasurer Deb Goldberg announced the latest group of names that were added to the list of unclaimed property owners. Throughout the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, over 46,000 new properties that are worth millions of dollars are owed to individuals and businesses. This newly released list only includes properties that are worth over \$100.

Did you know it is estimated that 1 out of every 10 people have unclaimed property? The Unclaimed Property Division within the state Treasurer's office currently oversees 3 billion in unclaimed money, securities, and tangible properties.

Unclaimed property is any financial asset with no activity by its owner for an extended period of time. This includes savings accounts, checking accounts, unpaid wages or commissions, stocks, underlying shares, uncashed dividends, customer deposits or overpayments,

It is also very important to be mindful of what you post online in your e-mails and social media to avoid dangerous scams, identity theft, and fraud. Here are a few tips from the AARP on what to never reveal publicly online.

- Personal information, including your Social Security number, birthday, place of birth, and even your phone number,
- Full front pictures of yourself as a con artist can recreate a photo ID and use it in identity theft,
- Be careful about posting things you may want to delete in the future. Nothing you post is ever truly gone even after you delete it. Think twice about sharing pictures or making comments.

Massachusetts Fall Activities

With a new Fall season ahead, now would be a great time to explore and learn more about fun things to do in Massachusetts, such as apple picking, which is in full swing!

Check out the [Mass Vacation](#) website for some nearby fun fall ideas!

Is there something you would like us to communicate in an upcoming **Retiree eNews Bulletin**? If so, let us know!

Please e-mail your request and/or comments to
MSRBCommunications@tre.state.ma.us

We look forward to hearing from you!

Contact us:

certificates of deposit, credit balances, refunds, money orders, paid-up life insurance policies, safe deposit boxes, and uncashed benefit checks, gift certificates, etc. Unclaimed Property does not pertain to land, houses, or real estate of any kind.

Click the following link to see if you have unclaimed property! [Search for unclaimed property.](#)

Have you, or are you, planning to move to a warmer climate for the winter?



If so, be sure to notify the Board of your address change! Retirees who already have summer and winter addresses on file with the Board can call us to request the address update. Otherwise, you'll need to notify the Board in writing. You can download our Change of Address form [here](#)!

Did you receive this **Retiree eNews Bulletin** as a forwarded e-mail from a friend? If you are a MSERS retiree and would like to receive your own monthly **Retiree eNews Bulletin**, send your e-mail address to us at MSRBCommunications@tre.state.ma.us

Note: Please include your full name and either your MSRB I.D. or the last four digits of your Social Security Number, and request that we add it to our distribution list.

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